

REMARKS

The allowance of claims 62-74 is noted with appreciation. Computer program and device claims 75-82 are newly added, and are similar in some respects to allowed claims 62-63. Support for these claims is found throughout the specification and drawings as filed, and no new matter is added. A favorable consideration that also results in the allowance of new claims 75-82 is respectfully requested.

Claims 23 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claim 23 was amended to change its dependency to that of claim 22, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

It is submitted that this amendment was made to cure an obvious typographical error, and thus the amendment was not made for a reason related to patentability. As such, the full range of equivalents should remain intact for claims 23 and 26.

Claim 1 was voluntarily amended to remove the phrases "may be" to generally further improve the clarity of claim 1. Other merely clarifying voluntary amendments were also made to claims 13, 33 and 41. These voluntary amendments were also not made for a reason related to patentability and, as such, the full range of equivalents should remain intact for each of these amended.

A number of claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morris (U.S. 6,772,418 B1, IPAC Acquisition Subsidiary, LLC) alone, or in view of Bracho et al. (U.S. 6,021,443, Sun Microsystems, Inc.) A number of other claims were objected to.

Without expressly or impliedly admitting that the Applicant is in agreement with the Examiner's reasons for rejection, the Applicant has elected to amend the claims to rewrite the objected-to claims into independent form, and to thereby place all of the claims into condition for allowance. More particularly, claim 1 was amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 2, which is now cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 1 is thus in condition for allowance, as are all

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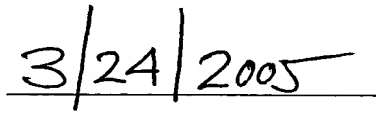
claims that depend directly or indirectly from claim 1. Dependent claim 16 has been rewritten so as to incorporate the subject matter of claim 1, and is thereby also in condition for allowance, as is dependent claim 17. Dependent claim 22 has been rewritten so as to incorporate the subject matter of claim 1, and is thereby also in condition for allowance, as are dependent claims 23 (as amended to cure the typographical error), as well as dependent claims 24-26 and 46. Dependent claims 37, 38 and 45 have also been rewritten so as to incorporate the subject matter of claim 1, and are thereby also in condition for allowance. Independent claim 48 was amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 50, which is now cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 48 is thus in condition for allowance, as are all claims that depend directly or indirectly from claim 48. Independent claim 56 was amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 58, which is now cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 56 is thus in condition for allowance, as are all claims that depend directly or indirectly from claim 56.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and remove the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on Morris and Bracho et al, and to allow all of the pending claims as now presented for examination. An early notification of the allowability of all of the pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted:



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March 24, 2005

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